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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/010,976	12/06/2001	Gregory Jay Geilow	ROC9-2001-0250-US1	5610

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07/18/2003

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EXAMINER

HAMMOND, BRIGGITTE R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED: 07/18/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
10/010,976

Applicant(s)
Gregory et al.

Examiner
Brigitte R. Hammond

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2833



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Apr 29, 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 10-17 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 7-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5 and 6 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 6) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION II

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the clamp having a "base member" (claim 7), the guide having "two parts" (claim 6), the engaging member having a "surface" forcing the card must be shown or the features canceled from the claims. No new matter should be entered.

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in-

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or

(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

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3. Claims 1,2 and 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Good et al. Good et al discloses a connecting device for connecting a connector by mating to an electronic card 52, the device comprising a card support 116 with locating pins 124, a frame 54, a movable member 50 carrying a spring 106 and an engaging member 94, said movable member further comprising a clamp 88,72 and an actuation assembly 78,74,72.

Regarding claim 2, (as best understood) the card support of Good et al. comprises conductors 90.

Regarding claim 7, Good et al. disclose the clamp member having a base member 72 and a holding member 102, wherein said holding member is restrained by fasteners 74.

Regarding claim 8, Good et al. disclose the engaging member having a surface (at 94) for engagement with a surface of the card 52 and forcing the card toward the support 116.

Regarding claim 9, the spring of Good et al. exerts a force through the engaging member 94 in excess of the force exerted on the connector.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goode et

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al. in view of Kaiser et al. Goode et al. do not disclose the actuator comprising a toggle. However, Kaiser et al disclose an actuator having an arm that acts as a toggle (see cot. 5, lines 18-20). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to modify the connecting/disconnecting device of Good et al by having the actuator further comprise a toggle assembly to allow the forces to be exerted on the arm as taught by Kaiser et al.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 5 and 6 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. Claims 10-17 are allowed.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments filed April 29, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. In response to applicant's argument that the support 116 of Good et al. does not support card 52, the examiner replies that the support 116 of Good et al. would indirectly support card 52 when connected (as implied by fig. 2). In response to applicant's argument that the locating pins of Good et al. does not engage the circuit board/card, the examiner replies that the card 52 of Good et al. comprises connector 58, and pins 124 mate with socket 122 of connector 58 (see fig 2.and col.4, lines 30-38) therefore the locating pins of Good et al. do

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engage the circuit board/card. In response to applicant's argument that the movable member carrying the spring and the engaging member being biased by the spring is not met by Good et al., the examiner disagrees. Good et al. disclose the "latch arm" (in which the engaging member is a part of) "is under the influence of the spring" (see col. 6, lines 40-43).

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Tollbom and Hristake were cited as similar connector devices.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Brigitte R. Hammond whose telephone number is (703) 305-0032.


The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday from 7:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley, can be reached on (703) 308-2319. Papers may be faxed directly to Group 2833 at (703) 305-3432.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Brigitte R. Hammond

July 14, 2003


RENEE LUEBKE
PRIMARY EXAMINER